

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO: 72073

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : SPRATTE et al.
PCT No. : PCT/DE2004/001867
Confirm. No. : N/A
Filed : January 25, 2006
For : BALL PIVOT
Art Unit : N/A
Examiner : N/A
Dated : January 25, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attached please find Form PTO-1449 together with the references as stated in the specification and/or the International Phase and/or German examination process of the above identified application.

- EP 0 617 260 A1 as discussed on Page 2 of the specification, cited in the German examination process and further cited in the International Search Report under Category X as being relevant to International claims 1 - 21. The reference discloses a level sensor for vehicles. No full translation is available at this time, however, attached is an English language abstract.

- DE 101 10 738 C1 as discussed on Page 2 of the specification, cited in the German examination process and further cited in the International Search Report under Category X as being relevant to International claims 1 - 21. The reference discloses a ball joint steering mechanism and associated position sensor arrangement for motor vehicle use has a robust

arrangement of permanent magnet signaler whose movement is detected by a sensor. No full translation is available at this time, however, attached is an English language abstract..

- DE 101 61 671 discloses a ball-and-socket joint for moving gear of vehicle has ball pivot arranged in housing at which locking element is provided to which electronic component is fixed. The reference has been cited under Category X as being relevant to International claims 1 - 21. No full translation is available at this time, however, attached is an English language abstract.

- DE 101 34 259 discloses a ball joint with integrated angle sensor. The reference has been cited in the German examination process. No full translation is available at this time, however, attached is an English language abstract.

Consideration of the above references is requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By: _____



John James McGlew

Registration No. 31,903

McGLEW AND TUTTLE, P.C.

JJM:tf
72073.5

Enclosed: PTO-1449 Form
copy of International Search Report
copies of (4) References

10/566123

1AP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 JAN 2006

DATED: January 25, 2006
SCARBOROUGH STATION
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827
(914) 941-5600

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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BY: *Jonathan Fonte* DATE: January 25, 2006

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Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce Sheet 1 of 1
Patent and Trademark OfficeLIST OF REFERENCES CITED
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty Docket No.: 72073
PCT No.: PCT/DE2004/001867
Applicant: SPRATTE et al.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Ex- aminer Initial | Document No. | Date | Name | Class | Sub- class | Filing Date |
|--------------------------|--------------|------|------|-------|---------------|-------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Ex- aminer Initial | Document No. | Date | Country | Class | Sub- class | Translation Yes/No |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------|---------------|-----------------------|
| | <u>DE 101 61 671 A1</u> | <u>June 26, 2003</u> | <u>Germany</u> | | | <u>No</u> |
| | <u>DE 101 10 738 C1</u> | <u>Nov. 7, 2002</u> | <u>Germany</u> | | | <u>No</u> |
| | <u>EP 0 617 260 A1</u> | <u>Sept. 28, 1994</u> | <u>Europe</u> | | | <u>No</u> |
| | <u>DE 101 34 259 A1</u> | <u>Feb. 6, 2003</u> | <u>Germany</u> | | | <u>No</u> |
| | | | | | | |

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| Ex- aminer Initial | Author | Date | Title | Textbook in | Translation Yes/No |
|--------------------------|--------|------|-------|-------------|-----------------------|
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Examiner_____
Date Considered